the State Government of Meghalaya had suggested to the Central Government that a Joint Human Rights Commission be set up for the North-Eastern States. However, there was no such demand from the remaining North-Eastern States. Moreover, out of the seven North-Eastern States, the State Governments of Assam and Manipur have already set up their respective State Human Rights Commission. The Central Government has again addressed the Chief Ministers of the concerned States in this connection, on 18.01.99.

Law against drunken driving

1601. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law against drunken driving is not being enforced in Delhi effectively, because of lack of equipment, absence of co-ordination between patrol cars and traffic police, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what steps are proposed to be taken to see that the law is enforced effectively in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The law against drunken driving is enforced by Delhi Traffic Police without the assistance of PCR Vans as the latter have been assigned a different role. The Traffic Police is, however, handicapped at present because of non-availability of indigenously developed and Government-approved Breath Analysers. It is only recently that an indigenous manufacturer commenced manufacture of this equipment and Delhi Police plan to procure Breath Analysers during the next financial year for their use, after this newly developed product is approved by the Central Government as required under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Crimes in the country

1602. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an all round increase in the number of crimes since 1998; and

(b) if so, what are Government's long term and short term plans to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Complete date for 1998 is not yet available. However, available information in regard to the incidence of cognizable crimes under the IPC reported during the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto available months) is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. As such, the registration, investigation and detection of crimes as well as the prevention of crimes are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure. The Central Government also shares intelligence with the State Governments and sends them advisories from time to time.